

# 2015

博士研究生入学考试辅导用书

# 考博英语

(北方卷)

## 全国重点院校真题精解大全

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# 考博英语全国重点院校真题 精解大全（北方卷）

博士研究生入学考试辅导用书编审委员会 编著



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英语考试是考生参加博士研究生入学考试道路上比较大的障碍和挑战。为了帮助报考博士研究生的考生了解各高等院校考博英语的命题特点和出题动态,我们参照一些名校博士研究生入学英语考试大纲,认真研究了 200 多所高等院校 500 多份历年考博英语真题,精心挑选了部分试题和相关资料,对北京大学、清华大学、中国人民大学等 12 所重点高等院校近年博士研究生入学考试英语试题作了详细的解析。本书详解其解题思路,全面分析其命题动向,剖析解题技法,从而帮助考生增强应试能力和信心。

本书适合参加博士研究生入学考试的广大考生使用,也可以作为参加硕士研究生入学考试考生的自学辅导用书。

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# 前 言

攻读博士学位的学生,一方面应该具备坚实的专业理论基础和扎实的科研能力,另一方面还应该具备较强的外语能力。从国家的角度来讲,我国走上了国际化的道路,改革开放的程度已经往纵深方向发展,我国与国外院校在经济、文化、科学、教育、管理和军事等领域的合作也日益紧密——这就对我国人才的知识水平提出了更高的要求。国际化人才首先要具备良好的外语水平,包括听、说、读、写、译的综合能力。作为我国高等教育最高层次的博士研究生教育,要求博士生具有较高的外语水平,也就理所当然了。

我国自 1981 年建立学位制度以来,全国博士研究生招生人数增长速度较快,2012 年全国博士研究生招生人数突破了 6.8 万人,今后国内博士研究生招收人数还将略有增加。从整体上看,由于博士研究生招生形势的不断发展,各院校博士研究生入学考试的难度也越来越大,对考生的外语要求也越来越高,特别是听说能力。英语考试是考生参加博士研究生入学考试道路上比较大的障碍和挑战。许多考生并非由于专业课,而是因为英语成绩未达到所报考院校最低录取分数线,而与自己理想的院校失之交臂。虽然目前我国博士研究生英语入学考试没有统一的考试大纲(这主要是因为国内没有对博士研究生入学英语考试采取统考形式),但是各个院校命题特点大同小异,一些院校的试题类型、内容难易程度都非常相似,所以,研究一些院校的近年考试试题就非常有价值。

目前国内大多数院校博士研究生入学英语考试发展趋势的主要特点是:主观测试题分值增加,博士研究生入学英语考试由水平测试趋向于水平测试和能力测试并重。虽然这种变化趋势并不适用于所有院校,但也反映了大多数院校博士研究生入学英语考试的发展趋势,具体可以总结出以下几点。

## 一、试题难度稳定,录取分数线波动不大

根据统计,全国博士研究生入学英语考试录取分数线总的来说呈上升趋势,这主要是由于报考人数逐年增多和考生整体水平提高。近年来,各院校博士研究生入学英语考试实际录取分数线大体在 50~60 分之间波动,也有个别院校少数专业破格录取分数线在 50 分以下。

通过对比全国大多数院校的历年考博英语试题可以看出,从试题难度方面来说,难度较大的应当数中科院、中国社科院和北京大学的试题,其他院校试题难度基本低于这三所院校。

## 二、重点题型突出,对主观题的考查是今后的方向和重点

博士研究生入学英语考试目前出现过的题型有十几种,例如:听力、词汇、语法、完形填空、改错、英语解释、阅读理解、英译汉、汉译英、写作、总结(Summary)等。但实际考试中多数院校每次只考六七种题型。对于多数院校来说,听力、词汇和语法、阅读理解、翻译和写作是四种常见题型(所有院校的听力部分,本书均未作收录,请读者注意)。

听力在国内博士研究生入学英语考试中占 15~20 分左右;词汇和语法占 10~35 分左右,而词汇和语法分值各半;阅读理解占 10~50 分左右;翻译占 10~15 分左右;写作占 10~15 分左右。

从全国重点院校的博士研究生入学考试英语试卷来看,向主观题型发展是今后的趋势,如西安交通大学考博试卷中全是主观题型,仅考翻译(汉译英与英译汉)和写作;北京大学

### 三、引进听写题型，听力难度有所增加

听力难度增大，是因为听写在听力考试中逐渐被采用和推广。听写与其他听力选择题的区别是如果听不懂就写不出答案，而其他听力选择题则有可能猜对。

### 四、用大题拉开分数差距，阅读、翻译和写作是考试的重中之重

翻译和写作都属于非标准化的题型，即主观测试题，这也说明了博士研究生入学英语考试侧重能力测试。尤其是有的院校还增加了英语口语。

通过对国内重点院校近年考题进行分析可知，翻译（汉译英和英译汉）和写作平均占总分的 30 分左右，最高的为财政部财科所的 70 分，最低的为北京大学的 15 分。

### 五、个别院校特别突出某一题型的重要性，重点考查考生某一方面的能力

国内个别院校考试题型中特别重视某一方面的测试，如北京师范大学的题型比较特殊，翻译和写作占 55 分，阅读占 30 分，听力占 15 分；财政部财科所的英语测试中翻译和写作就占了 70 分，并且听力没有和笔试合计，这说明了该研究所对阅读和写作要求较高；而天津大学博士研究生入学英语测试中没有阅读理解，用其他考试题型代替阅读理解。因此复习的时候，要有针对性地强化训练。

为了帮助报考博士研究生的考生了解各高等院校考博英语命题特点和出题动态，我们参照一些名校博士研究生入学英语考试大纲，我们参照一些名校博士研究生入学英语考试大纲，认真研究了 200 多所高等院校 500 多份历年考博英语真题，精心挑选了部分试题和相关资料，对北京大学、清华大学、中国人民大学等 12 所重点高等院校近年博士研究生入学考试英语试题作了详细的解析。本书详解其解题思路，全面分析其命题动向，剖析解题技法，从而帮助考生增强应试能力和信心。

实践证明，一本好的复习资料，能够帮助考生达到事半功倍的效果。本书为考生提供了全国名校的考博英语真题精解，详析解题思路，分析命题动向，剖析解题技巧，从而帮助考生增强应试能力和信心，获取理想成绩。

凡是购买正版图书，超值赠送新东方在线考博精品 400 元大礼包。读者登录新东方在线官方网站 [www.koolearn.com](http://www.koolearn.com)，点击免费注册成为新东方在线用户，点击网站最上部导航栏里的“快速注卡”进入注卡页面，输入刮开封面涂层获得的卡号以及验证码点击确定，进入我的课堂即可免费听价值 200 元的“博出精彩”考博精品课程，购买“2015 考博全程班”时在购物车勾选 200 元抵用券即可减免 200 元人民币。该礼品券注册注卡有效期至 2015 年 5 月 31 日为止。

参加本书编写的有李雪、陈冬冬、连庆玲、陈杨庆、黄艳、刘爽、李铁红、汪华、刘仕文、陈明慧、孟楠、成芬、涂振旗、张永艳、赵娜、王宇、董亮、姜宝静、王欢、黎兴刚、高鹏、王德军、范宏博、唐淑华、王春华、刘岩、王芳、陈欢、曹银菊、王艳平、黄春丽、孙璇、张艳霜、张一平、沈二婵、吴经林、范秋杏、李建霞、张秀娟、耿淑玉、王印有、刘东和、王英、王迎秋、刘颖、孙源龙、朱振华和佟琳，由于时间仓促，本书错误和纰漏之处在所难免，诚望广大读者批评指正。读者可将意见或建议发至信箱：[sinotests@sina.com](mailto:sinotests@sina.com)，谢谢！

博士研究生入学考试辅导用书编审委员会

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## 北京大学 2012 年博士研究生入学考试英语试题

### Part I Structure and Written Expression (15%)

**Directions:** For each question decide which of the four choices given will most suitably complete the sentence if inserted at the place marked. Mark your choices on the ANSWER SHEET.

1. A survey has found that three quarters of men quite enjoy their food shopping experience and are happy to \_\_\_\_\_ their way around the aisles searching out products.  
A. drive                      B. steer                      C. navigate                      D. voyage
2. We've seen a \_\_\_\_\_ trend of consumers saying they will spend more, from holiday shopping to 2012 travel plans, and spending plans for Feb 14 are no exception.  
A. consistent                      B. persistent                      C. insistent                      D. resistant
3. Nearly a third of parents say they feel \_\_\_\_\_ into their homes but cannot afford to move to a bigger property, a report reveals today.  
A. squealed                      B. squeezed                      C. squared                      D. sneezed
4. Going through a tricky divorce would be enough to put anyone off marriage for life. But a new study shows that men are much more likely to \_\_\_\_\_ a stressful and complicated break-up than women.  
A. get on                      B. get off                      C. get over                      D. get in
5. Being born in the summer could give you a sunny disposition for life. And a winter birthday might cast a permanent shadow \_\_\_\_\_ your happiness, scientists believe.  
A. through                      B. cross                      C. beneath                      D. over
6. Couples blessed with strength and aggression \_\_\_\_\_ looks are better off having boys, as these characteristics are of more use to males.  
A. other than                      B. rather than                      C. rather too                      D. in spite of
7. Iran's morality police are \_\_\_\_\_ on the sale of Barbie dolls to protect the public from what they see as pernicious western culture eroding Islamic values.  
A. putting down                      B. breaking down                      C. cracking down                      D. looking down
8. Business and government managers often promote "clean desk" policies to avoid disorganized offices and messy desks, \_\_\_\_\_ boosting work efficiency and productivity.  
A. for the purpose of                      B. for good of  
C. for purpose of                      D. for the fun of
9. New research suggests gossip could actually lower \_\_\_\_\_ and help people overcome the frustration of seeing someone doing something wrong and getting away with it.  
A. press                      B. bless                      C. cress                      D. stress

10. Brides are increasingly shunning summer weddings and getting married during winter \_\_\_\_\_ to cut costs amid the economic gloom, figures suggest.  
A. instead of      B. otherwise      C. instead      D. rather than
11. In the age of Google, our minds are adapting \_\_\_\_\_ we are experts at knowing where to find information even though we don't recall what it is.  
A. so much      B. so that      C. such that      D. so what
12. \_\_\_\_\_ 2.6 million people starting diets on New Year's Day, research suggests that by the end of the week 92 percent of dieters gave up, shunning exercise and gorging on comfort food.  
A. In spite      B. Although      C. While      D. Despite
13. Experiments suggest that season of birth dramatically affects the speed \_\_\_\_\_ the body clock ticks.  
A. at which      B. for which      C. on which      D. in which
14. Scientists on Tuesday pushed the hands of the infamous "Doomsday Clock" forward one minute from last year, signaling their \_\_\_\_\_ pessimism about the efforts of world leaders to handle global threats.  
A. increase      B. increased      C. increasingly      D. increasing
15. Retirees looking to stretch their pensions might consider spending their golden years in Ecuador, Panama or Mexico, \_\_\_\_\_ cost of living is low and the weather is warm, according to a new index.  
A. which      B. when      C. where      D. whose

## Part II Cloze Test (15%)

**Directions:** Read the following passage carefully and decide the best choice for each numbered blank. Mark your choices on the ANSWER SHEET.

The world's greatest snow-capped peaks, which run in a chain from the Himalayas to Tian Shan \_\_\_\_\_ 16 \_\_\_\_\_ the border of China and Kyrgyzstan, have lost no ice \_\_\_\_\_ 17 \_\_\_\_\_ the last decade, new research shows.

The discovery has stunned scientists, who \_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_ that around 50bn tons of meltwater \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ each year and not being replaced by new snowfall.

The study is the first to survey all the world's icecaps and glaciers and was made \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ by the use of satellite data. Overall, the contribution of melting ice outside the two largest caps — Greenland and Antarctica — is much \_\_\_\_\_ 21 \_\_\_\_\_ than previously estimated, with the lack of ice loss in the Himalayas and the other high peaks of Asia \_\_\_\_\_ 22 \_\_\_\_\_ most of the discrepancy.

Bristol University glaciologist Prof Jonathan Bamber, who was not part of the research team, said: "The very unexpected result was the negligible mass loss from high mountain Asia which is not \_\_\_\_\_ 23 \_\_\_\_\_ different from zero."

The melting of Himalayan glaciers caused \_\_\_\_\_ 24 \_\_\_\_\_ in 2009 when a report from the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change mistakenly stated that they would disappear by 2035, instead of 2350. \_\_\_\_\_ 25 \_\_\_\_\_, the scientist who led the new work is clear that while greater uncertainty has been discovered in Asia's highest mountains, the melting of ice caps and glaciers around the world \_\_\_\_\_ 26 \_\_\_\_\_ a serious concern.

“Our results and those of everyone else show we are losing a huge amount of water into the oceans every year,” said Prof John Wahr of the University of Colorado, “People should be just as worried about the melting of the world’s ice as they were before.”

His team’s study, published in the journal Nature, concludes that between 443-629bn tons of meltwater overall are added to the world’s oceans each year. This is 27 sea level by about 1.5mm a year, the team reports, 28 the 2mm a year caused by expansion of the warming ocean.

The scientists are careful to point out that lower-altitude glaciers in the Asian mountain ranges — sometimes dubbed the “third pole” — are 29 melting. Satellite images and reports confirm this. But over the study period from 2003-10 enough ice was added to the peaks to 30.

- |                            |                    |                  |                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 16. A. on                  | B. in              | C. across        | D. over           |
| 17. A. from                | B. as              | C. upon          | D. over           |
| 18. A. believed            | B. had believed    | C. have believed | D. were believing |
| 19. A. were being shedding | B. were shedding   |                  |                   |
| C. were being shed         | D. were shed       |                  |                   |
| 20. A. impossible          | B. possible        | C. unavailable   | D. available      |
| 21. A. shorter             | B. smaller         | C. fewer         | D. less           |
| 22. A. in charge of        | B. responsible for | C. liable for    | D. caused by      |
| 23. A. significantly       | B. meaningfully    | C. informatively | D. expressively   |
| 24. A. agreement           | B. consensus       | C. controversy   | D. difference     |
| 25. A. Besides             | B. Furthermore     | C. Despite       | D. However        |
| 26. A. resumes             | B. remains         | C. keeps         | D. lasts          |
| 27. A. rising              | B. arising         | C. raising       | D. rearing        |
| 28. A. including           | B. adding up to    | C. additionally  | D. in addition to |
| 29. A. definitely          | B. necessarily     | C. exactly       | D. particularly   |
| 30. A. replace             | B. refund          | C. compensate    | D. balance        |

### Part III Reading Comprehension (20%)

**Directions:** Each of the following four passages is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each question or unfinished statement, four answers are given. Read the passages carefully and choose the best answer to each question. Mark your choices on the ANSWER SHEET.

#### Passage 1

The United Nations Population Fund has picked October 31 as the day the world will be home to 7 billion people.

For better and worse, it’s a milestones.

And there will be more milestones ahead. Fourteen years from now, there are expected to be 8 billion people on the planet. Most of the growth will occur in the world’s poorer countries. Proportionally, Europe’s population will decline, while Africa’s will increase. At around the same time India will overtake China as the most populous nation on Earth.

The growing global population is just one side of the coin. A recent report from the World Health Organization signaled the seriousness of the human population explosion: more than 3 billion people—about half the world's population—are malnourished. Never before have so many, or such a large proportion, of the world's people been malnourished.

And in a growing number of countries there is a seemingly unstoppable march toward sub-replacement fertility, whereby each new generation is less populous than the previous one, and population aging.

As a result of declining fertility and increasing longevity, the populations of more and more countries are aging rapidly. Between 2005 and 2050, a rise in the population aged 60 years or over will be visible, whereas the number of children (persons under age 15) will decline slightly.

Population aging represents, in one sense, a success story for mankind, but it also poses profound challenges to public institutions that must adapt to a changing age structure.

The latest national census in China shows the number of elderly people in the country has jumped to more than 13.3 percent of the population, an increase of nearly 3 percentage points on the percentage from the previous census in 2000. A quarter of the country's population will be over 65 by 2050, according to the National Population and Family Planning Commission.

The growing number of elderly is a challenge that the government needs to tackle, we can't rely on the ever-increasing population to support them or maintain the nation's economic growth. Better solutions are needed, such as raising retirement ages to reflect the greater longevity and working capability of today's older adults and making adjustments so pension programs are more accessible.

It was heartening to hear the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security spokesperson announced in Beijing on Tuesday that the government will take the retirement policy seriously and proactively.

Shanghai began testing a flexible retirement system last October. Eligible employees in the private sector are allowed to postpone retirement until the age of 65 for women. Public servants, however, will continue to retire under the present system age 60 for men and 55 for women.

31. According to the passage, India will \_\_\_\_\_ in 14 years.
  - A. be a poorer country
  - B. be the most populous country
  - C. decline in population
  - D. increase investment in Africa
32. What problem will result from the global population explosion?
  - A. Population aging.
  - B. Increasing longevity.
  - C. Declining fertility.
  - D. Expanding malnourishment.
33. Population aging represents the following EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. rapid economic development
  - B. challenge to public institutions
  - C. success story of mankind
  - D. changing age structure
34. Today's older adults enjoy \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. more working years
  - B. more accessible pension programs
  - C. greater longevity
  - D. greater government support
35. What is the author's attitude toward the spokesperson's announcement?

A. Angered.

B. Delighted.

C. Indifferent.

D. Disappointed.

**Passage 2**

The United Nations declared last Friday that Somalia's famine is over. But the official declaration means little to the millions of Somalis who are still hungry and waiting for their crops to grow.

Ken Menkhaus, professor of political science at Davidson College, said it was profoundly disappointing to be discussing another Somali famine, after he worked in the country during the 1991-92 one. Each famine, he said, has distinct characteristics, and this one unfolded in slow motion over the past couple of years. That's at least partly because the Somali diaspora sent money home that delayed the worst effects.

Menkhaus was among four experts on Somalia and famine who spoke at the Radcliffe Gym Monday evening, who gathered for the event, "Sound the Horn: Famine in the Horn of Africa." Paul Farmer, Kolokotronis University Professor of Global Health and Social Medicine, drew on his experience treating malnourished people in Haiti, where he has worked for decades, and said the human and social context of hunger need as much attention as the patients do. A malnourished child is typically an indication of poverty at home, and aid to families should be part of treating the child, he said. Similarly, broader agricultural interventions and fair trade policies are needed to boost local agricultural economies.

Though famine is often thought of as a natural disaster, Monday's speakers said that is a false impression. Though Somalia suffered through a severe drought, with today's instant communications, transport systems can move massive amounts of food. Given today's global food markets, famine is too often a failure of local government and international response.

"In today's 21<sup>st</sup>-century world, just about everything about famine is man-made. We're no longer in a world of man against nature," said Robert Paarlberg, adjunct professor of public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Ethiopia, which was also affected by the recent drought, fared much better this time because of reforms implemented after the 2001 one. Likewise, Paarlberg said, northern and central Somalia regions that fall outside of the influence of the Al-Shabaab militia, also fared better. There were several man-made features of this famine, which affected more than 10 million people and killed between 50,000 and 100,000, half of them children under age 5.

The largest man-made feature was the role of the Al-Shabaab militia that rules the region and that kept food aid from reaching those in need. But the international community isn't blameless. As early as November 2010, an international famine early warning system was predicting the failure of rains in the region, but the international community didn't respond fully until an official famine was declared in July 2011. On top of that, U.S. anti-terrorism laws cut off food aid because Al-Shabaab, listed as a terrorist group, was taking some of it.

Though the United Nations has declared the famine over, that was based on statistical measures, such as the number of people dying each day and the number of children who are malnourished. Though the official famine may be over, both U.N. officials and Monday's speakers said the crisis continues for the people of Somalia. Almost a third of the population remains dependent on humanitarian assistance, crops

growing from recent rains will take months to reach maturity, and herds of cows, goats, and other animals were greatly reduced during the crisis.

Michael Delaney, director of humanitarian response for Oxfam America, warned that the world will have another chance to get its response right, because the warning signs are pointing to an impending famine in Africa's Sahel, the arid, continent-spanning transition zone just below the Sahara Desert.

36. The current Somali famine is different from the 1991-92 one in that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. it received less international aid                      B. worst effects came more slowly  
C. it caught more attention from the world            D. it lasted longer despite help from the UN
37. In treating the malnourished patients, attention should be paid to the following EXCEPT \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. making fair trade policies                              B. aiding the patients' families  
C. ignoring the indication of poverty                      D. exercising agricultural interventions
38. What is implied by "We're no longer in a world of man against nature?"  
A. Natural disaster alone cannot explain famines.  
B. We live in a world of many man-made matters.  
C. The world is made up of conflicting social forces.  
D. Human beings fight with one another for better life.
39. Regarding the current famine in Somalia, who's to blame most?  
A. The United States.                                      B. The Al-Shabaab militia.  
C. The United Nations FAO.                              D. The international community.
40. What problem still remains from the current Somali famine?  
A. The number of malnourished children remains unknown.  
B. Half of the population remains dependent on humanitarian assistance.  
C. Crops growing from recent rains were reaped before reaching maturity.  
D. Herds of cows, goats and other animals were greatly reduced during the famine.

### Passage 3

Both versions of the myth—the West as a place of escape from society and the West as a stage on which the moral conflicts confronting society could be played out—figured prominently in the histories and essays of young Theodore Roosevelt, the paintings and sculptures of artist Frederic Remington, and the short stories and novels of writer Owen Wister. These three young members of the eastern establishment spent much time in the West in the 1880s, and each was intensely affected by the adventure. All three had felt thwarted by the constraints and enervating influence of the genteel urban world in which they had grown up, and each went West to experience the physical challenges and moral simplicities extolled in the dime novels. When Roosevelt arrived in 1884 at the ranch he had purchased in the Dakota Badlands, he at once bought a leather scout's uniform, complete with fringed sleeves and leggings.

Each man also found in the West precisely what he was looking for. The frontier that Roosevelt glorified in such books as *The Winning of the West* (four volumes, 1889-1896), and that the prolific Remington portrayed in his work, was a stark physical and moral environment that



stripped away all social artifice and tested an individual's true ability and character. Drawing on a popular version of English scientist Charles Darwin's evolutionary theory, which characterized life as a struggle in which only the fittest and best survived, Roosevelt and Remington exalted the disappearing frontier as the last outpost of an honest and true social order.

This version of the frontier myth reached its apogee in Owen Wister's enormously popular novels *The Virginian* (1902), later reincarnated as a 1929 Gary Cooper movie and a 1960s television series. In Wister's tale the elemental physical and social environment of the Great Plains produces individuals like his unnamed cowboy hero, "the Virginian," an honest, strong, and compassionate man, quick to help the weak and fight the wicked. The Virginian is one of nature's aristocrats — ill-educated and unsophisticated but upright steady, and deeply moral. The Virginian sums up his own moral code in describing his view of God's justice: "He plays a square game with us." For Wister, as for Roosevelt and Remington, the cowboy was the Christian knight on the Plains, indifferent to material gain as he upheld virtue, pursued justice, and attacked evil.

Needless to say, the western myth in all its forms was far removed from the actual reality of the West. Critics delighted in pointing out that no one scene in *The Virginian* actually showed the hard physical labor of the cattle range. The idealized version of the West also glossed over the darker underside of frontier expansion — the brutalities of Indian warfare, the forced removal of the Indians to reservations, the racist discrimination against Mexican-Americans and blacks, the risks and perils of commercial agriculture and cattle growing, and the boom-and-bust mentality rooted in the selfish exploitation of natural resources.

41. Which of the following is probably the main reason for the author to mention Theodore Roosevelt, Fredric Remington and Owen Wister?
  - A. They glorified the frontier life.
  - B. They were constrained by the genteel urban world.
  - C. They spent much time in the West.
  - D. They were famous members of the eastern establishment.
42. Which of the following statements best describes *The Virginian*?
  - A. It is the best Western movie ever made in Hollywood.
  - B. It is a popular novel written by Owen Wister and Theodore Roosevelt.
  - C. It gives an accurate depiction of the frontier experience.
  - D. It is one of the most successful books about the West.
43. According to the passage, which of the following statements regarding the myth of the West is NOT true?
  - A. In one idealized view, the West was a place one can escape from society and its pressures.
  - B. In one version of the myth, western frontiersman was depicted as a figure deeply immersed in society and its concerns.
  - C. Some writers portrayed the western wilderness as a simple and innocent society.
  - D. The extreme hardship of the frontier life is one powerful theme of the *legendary West*.

44. The author's primary purpose in writing the passage is \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. to perpetuate the myth about the West  
B. to introduce the famous writers and painters of the West  
C. to distinguish the myth of the West and the actual reality  
D. to present the brutalities of Indian warfare
45. What is probably the reason for people to make up a *legendary West*?  
A. They like to make up stories.  
B. They believed what they portrayed were the actual reality.  
C. They clung to the myth of the West as an uncomplicated, untainted Eden of social simplicity and moral clarity in an era of unsettling social transformation.  
D. They wanted to make profit by luring people to the West.

#### Passage 4

The belief that the mind plays an important role in physical illness goes back to the earliest days of medicine. From the time of the ancient Greeks to the beginning of the 20th century, it was generally accepted by both physician and patient that the mind can affect the course of illness, and it seemed natural to apply this concept in medical treatments of disease. After the discovery of antibiotics, a new assumption arose that treatment of infectious or inflammatory disease requires only the elimination of the foreign organism or agent that triggers the illness. In the rush to discover new antibiotics and drugs that cure specific infections and diseases, the fact that the body's own responses can influence susceptibility to disease and its course was largely ignored by medical researchers.

It is ironic that research into infectious and inflammatory disease first led 20th-century medicine to reject the idea that the mind influences physical illness, and now research in the same field—including the work of our laboratory and of our collaborators at the National Institutes of Health—is proving the contrary. New molecular and pharmacological tools have made it possible for us to identify the intricate network that exists between the immune system and the brain, a network that allows the two systems to signal each other continuously and rapidly. Chemicals produced by immune cells signal the brain, and the brain in turn sends chemical signals to restrain the immune system. These same chemical signals also affect behavior and the response to stress. Disruption of this communication network in any way, whether inherited or through drugs, toxic substances or surgery, exacerbates the diseases that these systems guard against: infectious, inflammatory, autoimmune and associated mood disorders.

The clinical significance of these findings is likely to prove. They hold the promise of extending the range of therapeutic treatments available for various disorders, as drugs previously known to work primarily for nervous system problems are shown to be effective against immune maladies, and vice versa. They also help to substantiate the popularly held impression (still discounted in some medical circles) that our state of mind can influence how well we resist or recover from infectious or inflammatory diseases.

The brain's stress response system is activated in threatening situations. The immune system responds automatically to pathogens and foreign molecules. These two response systems are the body's principal means for maintaining an internal steady state called homeostasis. A substantial proportion of human cellular machinery is dedicated to maintaining it.

When homeostasis is disturbed or threatened, a repertoire of molecular, cellular and behavioral responses comes into play. These responses attempt to counteract the disturbing forces in order to reestablish a steady state. They can be specific to the foreign invader or a particular stress, or they can be generalized and nonspecific when the threat to homeostasis exceeds a certain threshold. The adaptive responses may themselves turn into stressors capable of producing disease. We are just beginning to understand the many ways in which the brain and the immune system are interdependent, how they help to regulate and counterregulate each other and how they themselves can malfunction and produce disease.

46. The passage supplies information to suggest that \_\_\_\_\_.  
A. it has always been the belief of both physician and patient that one's state of mind can affect physical disease  
B. the popular belief that stress exacerbates inflammatory illness has always been discredited by the doctors  
C. the discovery of antibiotics sheds light on people's understanding of the mind-body interaction in doctors  
D. there is a new understanding of the communication between the brain and immune system
47. Which of the following best states the mind-body interaction in disease?  
A. The brain and immune systems send signals to each other.  
B. The immune and central nervous systems are organized in very different ways to affect the course of illness.  
C. Disruption of the communication of the brain and immune system can cure certain diseases.  
D. The immune system and the brain share a lot of hormones to facilitate their communication.
48. Which of the following statements about clinical significance of the new findings can be best supported by the passage?  
A. The responsivity to stress is genetically determined.  
B. The treatment of immune maladies can be consciously controlled.  
C. Psychoactive drugs may in some cases be used to treat inflammatory diseases.  
D. Social interactions can lessen psychological stress and alter immune responses.
49. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?  
A. Taking the cure at a mountain sanatorium doesn't work for the treatment for many chronic diseases.  
B. The relaxing effects of hot-springs spa can help restore the communication between the brain and immune system.  
C. The disruption of the brain's stress response reduces the body's response.  
D. Depression is also associated with inflammatory disease.